



CIVIL SOCIETY MESSAGES FOR AFRICASAN 3 RWANDA – KIGALI 19TH – 21ST JULY 2011

We civil society organizations, under the banner of ANEW, and in partnership with FAN Global, End Water Poverty and WaterAid, have been recognized as key stakeholders in AfricaSan 3. We have consulted widely with members across Africa and, with reference to the eThekwini Declaration, present one voice to the AfricaSan 3 conference.

Whilst we appreciate a small number of countries are on track with sanitation progress and acknowledge the efforts made by the African Ministerial Council on Water (AMCOW), our governments and the international community to address the sanitation challenge; the facts speak for themselves. Urgent action needs to be taken in order to translate policies and paperwork into results for Africa.

The African Sanitation Crisis:

- More than 584 million people in Africa do not have an improved sanitation facility, and of those, 231 million practise open defecation.
- Sanitation is the most off-track target of the Millennium Development Goals, and will not be met in Sub-Saharan Africa for a further two centuries; this undermines progress against the health, education, gender and poverty MDGs.
- An outrageous 2.1 million children under the age of five have died from diarrhoea caused by poor water, sanitation and hygiene since the last AfricaSan just three years ago.

WE CALL OUR GOVERNMENTS AND DEVELOPMENT PARTNERS TO WALK THE TALK AT AFRICASAN 3 AND BEYOND!

Governments and development partners must demonstrate **strong leadership** by publically championing sanitation as fundamental to development, and drive forward national and local sanitation plans.

We have identified three key areas of focus:

FINANCING

- A clear timetable and measureable targets for achieving expenditure of 0.5% of GDP on sanitation (as per the eThekwini Declaration) must be outlined.

see overleaf...

- Separate budget lines for sanitation spending must be set up for better targeting of funds and for ease of monitoring.
- Resources should be better targeted towards countries with low sanitation coverage and a higher burden of sanitation related diseases.

COORDINATION AND PARTNERSHIPS

- Planning must involve marginalized people, such as urban slum dwellers, women, disabled and the elderly as well as hard to reach areas, to ensure programmes are truly effective and responsive to their needs.
- Mechanisms for inter-sectoral coordination between key ministries, the private sector and civil society at national and local levels must be established and strengthened for effective planning and delivery.
- Governments and development partners must support the Sanitation and Water for All (SWA) partnership to ensure high-level coordination of funds, decision makers and civil society.

MONITORING AND ACCOUNTABILITY

- AMCOW is obliged to hold governments to account in developing their country plans in line with the eThekweni and Sharm el-Sheikh commitments.
- Governments should work transparently and ensure reliable monitoring systems and data availability in order for civil society to hold them to account on their commitments.
- It is essential that governments develop transparent action plans to implement the Human Right to Water and Sanitation.

Now is the time to be ambitious and courageous so we can establish a robust framework that extends well beyond 2015.

We the CSOs recognize we have a valuable contribution to make, and commit to working in partnership to overcome our shared challenge. The CSO Commitment Session on Thursday 21st July is our opportunity to detail these commitments, which will then be shared in our closing statement.